



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Confirmation No. 8536**
Takahiro KITANO et al. : **Docket No. 2001-1648A**
Serial No. 10/009,169 : **Group Art Unit 1761**
Filed December 7, 2001 : **Examiner Carolyn A. Paden**

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REQUEST FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF PRIORITY DOCUMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
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Sir:

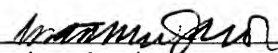
The Office Action Summary page of the Office Action mailed January 5, 2004 does not acknowledge Applicants' claim for foreign priority, nor is reference made to a copy of the certified copy of the priority document from the International Bureau.

When Applicants entered the U.S. National Stage, the papers which were filed with the Transmittal Letter on December 7, 2001 included Form PCT/IB/304 entitled NOTIFICATION CONCERNING SUBMISSION OR TRANSMITTAL OF PRIORITY DOCUMENT. Therefore, the PTO should have received a copy of the certified copy of Applicants' priority document from the International Bureau. Accordingly, the Examiner is kindly requested to acknowledge receipt of the priority document.

Respectfully submitted,

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